



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/705,267	11/10/2003	Anthony George	60714-1010	7038

24504 7590 04/06/2005

THOMAS, KAYDEN, HORSTEMEYER & RISLEY, LLP  
100 GALLERIA PARKWAY, NW  
STE 1750  
ATLANTA, GA 30339-5948

EXAMINER
----------

LAI, ANNE VIET NGA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2636

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/705,267

Applicant(s)

GEORGE, ANTHONY

Examiner

Anne V. Lai

Art Unit

2636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Weaver** [US. 5,880,672].

Regarding claims 1 and 3-5, **Weaver** discloses a method for guiding emergency personnel to a location after being in close proximity of the location, comprising: recognizing an emergency situation (call 911); activating a light source (50, fig. 1) located at the location to attract emergency personnel; the activation comprises activating a switch 18 that is coupled to the light source by pressing a key on a telephone keypad 12 (abstract; fig. 2).

Regarding claims 6 and 8-11, **Weaver** discloses a system for indicating precise location of an emergency location, comprising:

a light source 50 (fig. 1 and 4) located at the location and visible to emergency personnel when being activated;

circuit means 18 (fig. 2) for activating the light source in the event of emergency;

a second light source (16, 26, fig. 2) electrically connected to the circuit means to provide a trail to direct emergency personnel to the location when activated.

the activation comprises activating a switch that is coupled to the light source by pressing a key on a telephone keypad (abstract).

Regarding claims 16-17, **Weaver** discloses a method for guiding emergency personnel to a location after being in close proximity of the location, comprising using combination of a first and a second light sources for directing emergency personnel to the location (50, 26, fig. 2); pressing a key of a device (telephone) to activate a switch coupled to the first light source (12, 18; fig. 2).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 7, 12-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Weaver** in view of **Thomson et al** [US. 6,307,920].

Regarding claims 2, **Weaver** does not disclose the light source emits a periodic light; **Thomson et al** teach a method for guiding emergency personnel to a location after being in close proximity of the location using a periodic (stroboscopic, flasher) light emitting diode. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made the use of a flashing light is to differentiate the emergency locating light to a regular lighting, providing more attraction for guiding emergency personnel to the location.

Art Unit: 2636

Regarding claims 7, **Thomson et al** teach the light source is located on a mailbox (col. 7, line 53).

Regarding claims 12-15 and 18, **Thomson et al** teach the specific location can be an apartment located within an apartment group or a collection of locations including the specific location (apartment buildings, multiple family home; col. 7, lines 57-67); the first and the second light sources can be placed at any convenient place to guide emergency personnel to the specific location (col. 7, lines 42-56).

### ***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Scheiding** discloses a strobe light and emergency call warning device with remote activator. [US. 6,289,082]

**Gorman et al** disclose a telephone activated emergency response system. [US. 6,205,203]

**Boling et al** disclose panic button phone. [US. 6,044,257]

**Fahie et al** disclose an emergency telephone number alerting device. [US. 5,960,061]

**Collins** discloses a tone dialing activated emergency locator signal light system. [US. 5,621,379]

**Leighton et al** disclose a telephone activated emergency light system. [US. 5,012,507]

Art Unit: 2636

**McMinn et al** disclose a phone activated emergency signaling system. [US. 4,993,058]


**Robinson et al** disclose an emergency telephone actuated signal light. [US. 4,935,951]

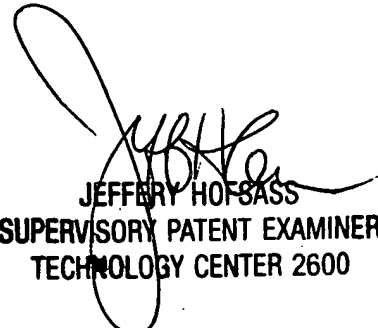
**Delisle** discloses a silent alarm and means for directing emergency personnel to the site. [US. 3,798,375]

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne V. Lai whose telephone number is 571-272-2974. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday to Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hofsass Jeffery can be reached on 571-272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A. V. Lai   
March 31, 2005

  
JEFFERY HOFSSASS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600